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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Zaret et al.
Appl. No.: 09/811,411
Conf. No.: 8832
Filed: June 14, 2001
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING INFORMATION AND
COLLABORATING
Art Unit: 2157
Examiner: Abdullahi Elmi Salad
Docket No.: 0116210-005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF PATRICK O'DONNELL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Dear Sir:

I, Patrick O'Donnell, hereby state:

1. I am one of the joint inventors of the subject matter claimed in the above-identified patent application and am familiar with the inventions disclosed therein.

2. In the May 3, 2005 Office Action for the above-identified patent application, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-17, 21, 23-26, 28-43, 47, 49-56, 59-65 and 68 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over *Ozzie et al.* (US Patent 6,640,241), filed on July 19, 1999.

Claims 18-20, 27, 44-46, 57 and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ozzie et al.* (US Patent 6,640,241) in view of *Payne et al.* (US Patent 6,735,614).

Claims 22, 48, 58 and 67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ozzie et al.* (US Patent 6,640,241) in view of *Cave et al.* (US Patent 6,404,746).

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3. I am one of the joint inventors who conceived of and reduced to practice the invention of Claims 1-68 at a date prior to the earliest effective filing date of the *Ozzie et al.* patent which is July 19, 1999. The factual basis for this statement is set forth below.

4. Prior to July 19, 1999, I jointly conceived of the invention of Claims 1-68, as evidenced by the document "Interchange Functional Specification Version 2.4" which is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The aforementioned document is based upon subject matter ultimately incorporated into the present application.

5. After jointly conceiving of the invention of Claims 1-68, diligent work was performed in the normal course to prepare and file patent application 09/411,599 ("the '599 application") in the United States on September 28, 1999. The present application is a continuation of the '599 application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further, I acknowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SignatureDate Signed

Name: Patrick O'Donnell



Address:

10213 S. Tripp Ct
Oak Lawn, IL 60453